



ARIZONA CROPS MARCH 2000

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U.S. ORANGE PRODUCTION UP 3 PERCENT

All oranges production forecast for 1999-00 is 12.8 million tons, up 3 percent from last month's forecast and up 29 percent from last season's freeze-damaged crop. Florida's all orange forecast is 226 million boxes (10.2 million tons), 3 percent higher than the February 1 forecast and 22 percent higher than the 186 million boxes (8.36 million tons) utilized last season. Early and midseason varieties in Florida are forecast at 134 million boxes (6.03 million tons), 6 percent higher than a month ago and 20 percent higher than last season. Maturity is lagging and the rows remaining for harvest are the highest in the current 9-season series. Florida's Valencia forecast of 92.0 million boxes (4.14 million tons) remains unchanged and is 25 percent higher than last season's final utilization. Droppage remains well below average while the size is above average. However, the growth rate has leveled off as the fruit approaches maturity.

Texas orange production is forecast at 1.70 million boxes (73,000 tons), up 6 percent from last month and up 19 percent from last season. If realized, it will be the largest orange crop since the 1988-89 season when 1.85 million boxes were utilized. California's all orange production forecast of 67.0 million boxes (2.51 million tons) is carried forward from January and is 76 percent higher than last season's freeze-damaged crop. The Arizona orange forecast, also carried forward from January, is 1.05 million boxes (40,000 tons), down 9 percent from last season's final utilization.

Florida frozen concentrated orange juice (FCOJ) yield for the 1999-00 season is 1.54 gallons per box of 42.0 degree Brix concentrate, unchanged from February's projected yield. This projected yield is down from last season's record high 1.63 gallons per box. The early and midseason portion is projected at 1.48 gallons per box, while the late type (Valencia) orange yield is projected at 1.64 gallons per box, both unchanged from a month ago.

CITRUS FRUIT: UTILIZED PRODUCTION 1997/98-1998/99 AND FORECASTED MARCH 1, 2000 1/

Crop and State	Utilized Production		
	1997/98	1998/99	Forecasted 1999/00
1,000 Boxes 2/			
Oranges, Early			
Mid and Navel 3/			
AZ 4/	350	550	600
CA 4/	44,000	21,000	40,000
FL	140,000	112,000	134,000
TX	1,350	1,250	1,400
US	185,700	134,800	176,000
Oranges, Valencia			
AZ 4/	650	600	450
CA 4/	25,000	17,000	27,000
FL	104,000	73,700	92,000
TX	175	180	300
US	129,825	91,480	119,750
All Oranges			
AZ 4/	1,000	1,150	1,050
CA 4/	69,000	38,000	67,000
FL	244,000	185,700	226,000
TX	1,525	1,430	1,700
US	315,525	226,280	295,750
Temples			
FL	2,250	1,800	2,100
All Grapefruit			
AZ 4/	800	750	800
CA 4/	8,000	7,500	8,000
FL 5/ 6/	49,550	47,050	46,000
TX	4,800	6,100	5,500
US	63,150	61,400	60,300
Tangerines			
AZ 4/ 7/	600	950	1,100
CA 4/ 7/	2,400	1,500	2,300
FL	5,200	4,950	6,800
US	8,200	7,400	10,200
Lemons 4/			
AZ	2,600	3,450	3,100
CA	21,000	16,200	21,000
US	23,600	19,650	24,100
Tangelos			
FL	2,850	2,550	2,500
K-Early Citrus			
FL	40	80	110

1/ The crop year begins with the bloom of the first year shown and ends with the completion of harvest the following year.

2/ Net lbs. per box: oranges-AZ & CA-75, FL-90, TX-85; grapefruit-AZ & CA-67, FL-85, TX-80; lemons-76; tangelos, K-Early Citrus & Temples-90; tangerines-AZ & CA-75, FL-95.

3/ Navel and miscellaneous varieties in AZ and CA. Early (including Navel) and midseason varieties in FL and TX. Small quantities of tangerines in TX.

4/ Estimates for current year carried forward from earlier forecast.

5/ Excludes White Seedless economic abandonment of 5,000,000 boxes in 1997-98.

6/ Excludes Colored Seedless economic abandonment of 1,000,000 boxes in 1997-98.

7/ Includes tangelos and tangors.

PRICES RECEIVED INDEX INCREASES 2 POINTS

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received in February was 92 based on 1990-92=100, up 2 points (2.2 percent) from the January index. The seasonal change in the mix of commodities farmers sell affects the overall index. Higher seasonal marketings of milk, cattle, broilers, and hogs more than offset the relatively lower marketings of corn, soybeans, tobacco, and cotton. These marketing changes accounted for most of the February index increase. Higher prices for hogs, eggs, corn, and soybeans offset price decreases for lettuce, broilers, milk, and apples.

Compared with February 1999, the All Farm Products Index was 4 points (4.2 percent) lower. Price decreases from February 1999 for

milk, lettuce, oranges, and cotton more than offset price increases for cattle, hogs, calves, and apples.

PRICES PAID INDEX UP 1 POINT

The February Index of Prices Paid for Commodities and Services, Interest, Taxes, and Farm Wage Rates (PPITW) was 119 percent of the 1990-92 average. The index was up 1 point from January and 4 points (3.5 percent) above February 1999. Higher prices in February for diesel fuel, nitrogen fertilizers, feed grains, and feeder pigs more than offset lower prices for feeder cattle, herbicides, feed supplements, and LP gas.

PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS: ARIZONA AND U.S., FEBRUARY 1999 AND 2000 AND JANUARY 2000

Commodity	Unit	ARIZONA			UNITED STATES		
		February 1999 Entire Month	January 2000 Entire Month	February 2000 Mid-Month	February 1999 Entire Month	January 2000 Entire Month	February 2000 Mid-Month
Upland Cotton 1/	¢ Lb	0.548	0.490	2/	0.560	0.431	0.434
Cottonseed	\$ Ton	148.00	124.00	126.00	141.00	101.00	108.00
All Wheat 3/	\$ Cwt	---	---	---	2.74	2.50	2.58
Durum Wheat 3/	\$ Cwt	---	---	---	2.84	2.89	2.98
Winter Wheat 3/	\$ Cwt	---	---	---	2.56	2.32	2.42
All Hay Baled 4/	\$ Ton	89.00	81.00	83.00	79.00	71.80	72.60
Alfalfa Hay Baled 4/	\$ Ton	90.00	82.00	84.00	82.00	74.10	77.40
Other Hay Baled 4/	\$ Ton	80.00	58.00	76.00	70.40	65.90	66.70
Other Head Lettuce 3/	\$ Cwt	---	---	---	15.40	14.60	8.53
Grapefruit 6/	\$ Box	12.30	3/	13.30	13.10	11.80	15.20
Oranges 6/	\$ Box	30.80	14.50	16.20	22.70	14.00	13.70
Lemons 6/	\$ Box	21.30	32.40	29.60	22.10	31.40	26.90
Tangerines 6/	\$ Box	31.50	27.80	22.20	29.90	26.80	22.60
Cows 7/	\$ Cwt	34.80	34.20	37.20	34.70	35.90	37.00
Steers and Heifers	\$ Cwt	62.50	68.60	69.10	63.60	71.60	70.80
Beef Cattle 8/	\$ Cwt	62.20	68.30	68.80	60.60	67.80	67.50
Calves	\$ Cwt	81.30	91.90	96.00	86.90	102.00	105.00
All Milk 9/	\$ Cwt	14.10	11.30	11.30	15.50	12.00	11.80

1/ Includes both spot and contract sales.

2/ Price not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

3/ Not available for Arizona.

4/ Mid-month.

5/ All Head lettuce for U.S.

6/ F.O.B. packed fresh Arizona box weights: Grapefruit 67 lbs., Oranges 75 lbs., Lemons 76 lbs., Tangerines 75 lbs.

7/ Beef cows and cull dairy cows sold for slaughter.

8/ "Cows" and "steers and heifers" combined.

9/ Before deductions for hauling. Includes quality, quantity, and other premiums. Excludes hauling subsidies.

U.S. PRICE INDEX SUMMARY TABLE

INDEX 1990-92 = 100	1999		2000	
	December	January	December	January
Prices Received	97	96	90	92
Prices Paid	115	115	118	119
Ratio 1/	84	83	76	77

1/ Ratio of index of prices received by farmers to index of prices paid.